

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0001]** This application is a National Stage of International Application No. PCT/US03/037046, filed November 17, 2003, and ~~this application~~ claims the benefit of an earlier filed provisional application U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/437,922, entitled YIELD IMPROVEMENT, filed on January 2, 2003, the entire content of which is incorporated herein by reference.